



Applicant : Conrad et al.
Appl. No : 09/679,353
Filed : October 5, 2000
Title : UPRIGHT VACUUM CLEANER

Grp./A.U. : 1744
Examiner : T. Snider

Docket No. : 12811-10/PMdC

12/11/02

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December 4, 2002

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of June 4, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel all the claims on file without prejudice.

Please add claims 49-73 as follows:

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49. A vacuum cleaner comprising
- (a) a dirty air inlet and a source of suction to draw air containing particulate matter into the dirty air inlet and produce an air stream (in the vacuum cleaner;
 - (b) a first cyclonic cleaning stage comprising a cyclone having a first cyclonic cleaning stage inlet and a first cyclonic cleaning stage outlet;
 - (c) a second cyclonic cleaning stage positioned in series with the first cyclonic cleaning stage, the second cyclonic cleaning stage comprising a plurality of second stage cyclones, each of the second stage cyclones having a second stage cyclone inlet and a second stage cyclone outlet; and,
 - (d) a passage connecting the first cyclonic cleaning stage outlet in fluid flow communication with the second stage cyclone inlets, and the passage is configured to inhibit settling out of particulate matter from the air stream.

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